

Notice of Exemption



21-2026-138

Filing Requested By and When Filed Return To:

Marin Municipal Water District
220 Nellen Ave
Corte Madera, CA 94925
Attn: Carly Blanchard, Environmental Planner

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SHELLY SCOTT
MARIN COUNTY CLERK
BY: *[Signature]*, Deputy

Project Title: Soulajule Emergency Culvert Replacement Project

Project Location: 3 Peaks Fire Road (38°08'48.1"N 122°44'29.3"W) **Project Location – County:** Marin

Project Description: The Project consists of the emergency, in-kind replacement of a failed 120-linear-foot, 72-inch corrugated metal pipe (CMP) culvert beneath 3 Peaks Fire Road adjacent to Soulajule Reservoir. The existing culvert has failed and separated at two coupling locations, with portions of the culvert displaced into the channel. The failure has resulted in erosion, sinkhole formation, and degradation of the roadway embankment, creating an imminent risk of roadway failure. The roadway provides the only access to a residence and critical District water supply infrastructure at Soulajule Reservoir. District access to the critical water infrastructure in this area is necessary to ensure uninterrupted delivery of water service.

The failed culvert will be replaced in-kind with a new 120-linear-foot, 72-inch CMP culvert within the same alignment and serving the same drainage function. Associated work will include excavation and backfilling, restoration of the roadway and embankment, and installation of rock slope protection at the culvert inlet and outlet to stabilize the embankment and reduce future erosion. Disturbed areas will be restored following completion of the work.

Public Agency Approving Project: Marin Municipal Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Marin Municipal Water District

CEQA Exemption Status: Statutory Exemption pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(2,4) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c), Emergency Projects; Categorical Exemptions pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301, Existing Facilities; 15302(c), Replacement or Reconstruction; and 15304, Minor Alterations to Land.

Reason for Exemption: The Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(2,4) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c) because it consists of specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency and includes emergency repairs necessary to maintain District services. The existing culvert has failed and separated at two coupling locations, resulting in erosion, sinkhole formation, and degradation of the roadway embankment that creates a risk of imminent roadway failure. The roadway provides the only access to a residence and critical District water supply infrastructure at Soulajule Reservoir. District access to the critical water infrastructure in this area is necessary to ensure uninterrupted delivery of water service. Immediate in-kind replacement of the failed culvert is necessary to prevent roadway failure and maintain safe and uninterrupted access. Notwithstanding the emergency nature of the Project, it also qualifies for categorical exemptions pursuant to Sections 15301, 15302(c), and 15304 because it consists of the in-kind replacement of an existing culvert, with no expansion of use or capacity, and minor alterations to previously disturbed roadway and embankment areas. The exceptions set forth in 15300.2 were evaluated and determined to not be applicable to this Project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Carly Blanchard, Marin Municipal Water District **Telephone:** (628) 252-1528

[Signature of Carly Blanchard]

8/20/2026

Carly Blanchard, Environmental Planner

Date

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